position. The Government of Sri Lanka have informed us that the request is receiving their due consideration and that the extradition, if agreed to, would have to await completion of trial and legal processes in Sri Lanka.

Reports of U.S. Commission on Gujarat Violence

2418. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in the Asian Age, captioned "The foreign hand in Gujarat is home-grown" mentioning that the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom has strongly condemned the Gujarat Government for its alleged complicity in the genocide, ethnic cleansing programme directed at Muslims;

(b) if so, whether the said U.S. Commission has also pointed out that extremist organisations in India are getting fund from Indian diaspora in the UK and the USA; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Government has seen the report referred to in the question. The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom conducted a hearing on 10 June, 2002 on the subject of "Recent Communal Violence in Gujarat, India and Response." Government regards this exercise of the Commission, which is a non-official body, as an internal process of the United States. Government rejects any intrusive inquiry into how we conduct our affairs. India's long tradition of secularism and its constitutional, legal and institutional safeguards for the rights and welfare of all citizens are well known.

Differences between India and U.S. on infiltration issue

2419. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "India, U.S. differ on infiltration issue" which published in 'The Times of India' dated the 14th July, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government accept the U.S. assessment in the matter; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government's assessment of the level of infiltration is based solely on the information and evidence that it receives from the ground. No country is in a better position to assess the level of infiltration into Jammu and Kashmir than India. There is a broad convergence of views between India and the international community, including the United States, that cross-border infiltration and terrorist incidents continue in Jammu and Kashmir and that President Musharraf must deliver on the promises to permanently end infiltration and dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism, including the camps, before a dialogue could begin between India and Pakistan.

Naming of PoK as Azad Kashmir by World Bank

2420. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recently reported World Bank aid for a development project in Pak-occupied Kashmir (PoK), named by the Bank as Azad Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether Government had taken up the issue with World Bank, on the ground that the area formed part of the Sovereign Indian territory which was under forced-illegal occupation of Pakistan;

(c) if so, the World Bank's response and reaction thereto; and

(d) what other steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Recently, the World Bank Board